



Welcome to the Notts & Derby Section's sixth Newsletter.

As we won't be meeting up for a little while, these are intended to be a way of keeping in touch at least until the restrictions end.

In this issue we have news about forthcoming events, the Way Point Rally, The Poachers Trial, the new VMCC insurance scheme and our first runs.

Last one?

This issue could be the last issue of the newsletter as we should all be able to meet up again in just over a fortnight. If there is sufficient demand, I might be able to publish on a monthly basis instead of the two-week interval we now have but it depends, as always, on if there is enough material forthcoming from yourselves. Let me know what you think!

Could you be our Treasurer?

As I reported previously, our treasurer, Janet, is stepping down in June and we will

have to appoint a replacement in time for her to pass on information and paperwork. Although not onerous, this is a very important role within the section. It involves collecting subs on club nights and preparing the accounts for the AGM as well as paying a few expenses.

Please ask yourself if you could help.

Way Point Rally locations.

The way point rally points for our section have been decided upon and they are: Longstone Edge, Parsley Hay Car Park and Southwell Minster.

The Way Points for all the other sections will be announced by Allen House in the near future, most likely in the Journal.

WhatsApp Group Runs.

Although there are not many of us yet, the group has been arranging small informal runs with just a few members.



Steve's 5TA and Dave's 3TA made a lovely couple on the first run.

Then later in April, new members Brian, Dave, Steve and I got together via the group and rode to Derbyshire from our start at

Papplewick. We passed through Heage, Wirksworth, Brassington and Parwich before stopping at Youlgreave for our packed lunches. This would have been at a remote car park but I missed the junction!

On through Birchover, Winster and Bonsall Moor where we passed through the gated road (pictured) on the way to Slaley. Then down to Cromford and finished at Ripley.

It was good for us all to put faces to names and also to get together on a run.

To get involved with the group, use this link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LVAeA08bTrkK42Z8MW0pyU>

(you might have to copy and paste if you are using the PDF newsletter)



New VMCC Insurance Scheme

In May, the VMCC will be announcing details of a new insurance scheme for members' bikes. You should have received an email regarding this but here is a review:

The scheme, which will only be available to current VMCC members, is expected to be

a real market-beater. Key features will include:

- special VMCC-only underwriting rates, on the basis that the “lifestyle” of club members means they are considered to represent a lower-than-average risk;
- discounts for length of VMCC membership;
- inclusive of breakdown, helmet & leathers and EU riding cover;
- damage cover whilst a bike is being transported rather than ridden;
- retained salvage if desired and no write-offs that would prevent rebuilding;
- any bike covered, but must be at least one VMCC-eligible bike on the policy;
- no upper age other than 85 for new business, but exceptions for proven older riders looking to change insurers;
- lower age 21, but exceptions for young riders with an established connection to the VMCC.

Price comparison testing indicates that around 80% of the time the scheme will be the cheapest in the market. However, where an individual quote is not the cheapest, in almost all cases our broker will match and then beat by 5% a quote from five named main-market competitors.

The objective in setting up this new scheme has been to secure the optimum mix between cheapness and quality, as a benefit of membership.

Former Chair Bob Clark (who has been

leading the negotiations) said “Under the new scheme, I would make a saving of around 50% on what I have been paying for insurance for my bikes.”.

All being well, the scheme should open for business in August.

More details are available on the VMCC website. The link to pre-register your interest is:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=7w8ZAJl4TEGeuytBBKtnaWSwlM5EBoFHijCcpCJQqelUMzq0QU5EUIBHRVAySFM4TE1PQ1pKSDZOOC4u>

Lifting of restrictions.

I’m sure most of us are fed up with the restrictions but there’s light at the end of the tunnel!

If the roadmap goes according to plan, by 17th May we should be able to meet in groups of 30 outdoors, which will enable runs to go ahead almost as usual.

Many of us will have had both doses of the vaccine but we will still need to observe some social distancing measures.

Our first few Section runs.

If things all go well, our first run will be, as advertised, on Thursday 20th May, as this is the first Thursday following the lifting of the Rule of Six.

As we don’t normally exceed 30 members on runs, there will be no need to pre-book. If we do get more than 30, we will appoint a second leader so that we can split the group.

We do occasionally allow non-members to join us for a taster ride but please note that as we expect a big demand for the first few runs, they will be reserved for **MEMBERS ONLY** until things stabilize.

Run Leaders: Please always check with finishing venues before ending your run there to check that they are comfortable with our numbers.

Poachers Trial, 18th April 2021



Guy Martin

Here we are, doing what we do again. It's mid-April and Covid rules allow us to gather once more in groups and so I joined ten other groups of six on a fantastic sunny morning in the Lincolnshire Wolds at Biscathorpe Park for the inaugural

shakedown trial of the Poachers Pre-65 Trials Club 2021.

Six months have passed since we last tested ourselves on the footpegs and the sections were set out nice and simple to ease us back into the groove. We were joined by no less than TT winner Steve Plater and also Guy Martin. Both useful trials riders but I'd rather be feet up around grassy banks than at 180mph down Bray Hill like they both did in their heyday! Steve was paired up in our sextet and entertained us with great chat and banter while queuing for sections to clear. Myself on the JB DOT and Alan Marin-Andrew on an early round-frame bike were the only DOT riders among the roost of "new" bantams and Cubs.



Steve Plater with that titanium exhaust.

After the Lockdown there was plenty of evidence of some very well put together examples of "Pre-65" British bikes on show. One interesting feature I noticed on Mick Grant's Bantam, ridden by Steve Plater, was the titanium exhaust, meticulously welded together, snake-like from a host of tubular rings to give the classic two-stroke header and expansion chamber

Another superb £10,000 Cub conversion and numerous Drayton framed machines contrasted with just a few original Greeves and Cottons. Several top-class riders rode clean all day unsurprisingly so my 3 marks lost on the first lap before I got my eye in relegated me to 9th overall on the expert route. With Steve Plater on 8 and Guy Martin losing 13 I felt less deflated!

Andrew Cooke

EVENTS:



NMM Open Day update.

Due to unprecedented demand, the NMM have decided to make their **free** open day "National Motorcycle Museum LIVE" a weekend event.

What has become one of the largest happenings in the motorcycling calendar will now take place on Saturday 30th October and Sunday 31st October.

After missing out in 2020 due to Covid-19, this year's new weekend event promises to

be extra special. But one thing hasn't changed with everyone being invited to visit the museum collection free of charge! Look out for further details and updates about this year's two day Museum Live @ www.thenmm.co.uk

Normous Newark

Mortons Media have announced the Normous Newark Autojumbles for the rest of this year.

They will be held on:

Sunday 6th June,
Sunday 18th July,
Sunday 15th August,
Sunday 19th September,
Sunday 24th October,
Sunday 21st November
and Sunday 19th December.

Crich



The Crich Classic Motorcycle Day has been moved to Sunday, 3rd October, to enable covid-compliance.

Registration will be open at the end of July. Planning will be led by how the country

cope with lockdown being eased, so more details will be released when possible.

Matlock Meeting



Member Jonathan Lambley has just arranged with the Duke William pub at Matlock to run a lunchtime, mid-week classic bike meet, which we hope will be a relaxed enjoyable event.

A lunchtime event might work well, as it may suit retirees and shift workers, and if it goes well, he hopes to repeat it once a month but we'll see how it goes.

Jonathan would appreciate your support and, of course, welcome any feedback or suggestions.

Ethanol free petrol

It is still possible to obtain petrol without ethanol. It was my belief that most super unleaded fuels don't contain it and this statement from Esso seems to confirm that.

"Although our pumps have E5 labels on them, our Synergy Supreme+ 99 is actually ethanol free (except, due to technical supply reasons, in Devon, Cornwall, North Wales, North England and Scotland).

Legislation requires us to place these E5 labels on pumps that dispense unleaded petrol with 'up to 5% ethanol', including those that contain no ethanol, which is why we display them on our Synergy Supreme+ 99 pumps.

There's currently **no requirement** for renewable fuel, like ethanol, to be present in super unleaded petrol although this could change in the future, in which case we would comply with any new legislation."

Other companies could be offering similar fuels but you can find your nearest stockiest on this link:

<https://www.esso.co.uk/en-gb/find-station/?longitude1=-1.3309222031548806&longitude2=-1.32569189557584&latitude1=53.01903961723865&latitude2=53.0206530688302>

Alien Motorcycles offer.

One of our new members, Jason Frost, is an ex-racer and now restorer. He runs Alien Motorcycles Ltd, which is a nationwide motorcycle collection, delivery and storage company. He is happy to offer a discounted service for any fellow members of the VMCC.

You can find his website on

www.alienmotorcycles.co.uk

Just quote ref:vmcc member for a discount.

Indicators

Further to the article about rewiring the AJS in the last newsletter, our Chairman, Gordon, contacted me to say that he has used Vehicle Wiring Products short and long rubber stemmed indicators on both his Guzzi and Royal Enfield with good results. £11.98 per pair.

CONTACT US:

Please let me have any stories from the past, amusing or otherwise, concerning motorcycles, or any technical information, rebuild stories, photos or news of events by replying to this email.

Let us know what you've been up to by emailing me at:

nottsandderbyvintageclub@outlook.com

Use the same address and format if you have any items or motorcycles for sale. Don't forget to include a phone number and a price.